FIRST THINGS FIRST

The right system for bright futures

ARIZONA EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT & HEALTH BOARD

NORTH PHOENIX REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER: The Ratification Meeting of the First Things First North Phoenix Regional Partnership Council; Arizona Early Childhood Development and Health Board was held on Monday, April 5, 2010 at the First Things First Central Office, located in the 8th floor large conference room at 4000 North Central Avenue, Suite 800. All Council Members in attendance participated by phone.

Regional Coordinator Brenda Tomlin facilitated the telephone meeting at the request of Chair Bill Adams. Coordinator Tomlin called the Ratification Meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Members Present By Phone: Jenna Goad, Member; Sally Downing, Member; Willette Watts, Member; Connie Robinson, Member, James Emch, Member; Bill Adams, Chair; Mindy Zapata, Member. Member Elaine Ellis and Member Gina Montes joined the meeting in progress.

Members Not Present: None

Staff Present: Brenda Tomlin, Regional Coordinator; Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant; Jill Stevens, Senior Policy Specialist

Quorum: Established.

2. RATIFICATION OF THE MARCH 9, 2010 POSSIBLE RE-ALLOCATION OF 2011 FUNDING: At the last meeting on March 9, 2010, Council Members discussed and decided how to allocate Seven Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars ($740,000.00) to an Access and Affordability Strategy. Two possible strategies were considered by the Council: 1). Offer child care scholarships to preschool aged children in settings that are typically outside of a school district program; and 2). "Expand" preschool programs that are typically in school district programs, but follow the standard for a "mixed service delivery" meaning they are a combination of school district and other community programs. Programs offered in this option can either be a full day or a part day, many are typically offered for nine months, but can be a 12 month program. At the March 9, 2010 meeting, a discussion to split the funding between child care tuition scholarships and pre-k expansion took place which resulted in a failed motion due to Members not in favor. There was also discussion to allocate the $740,000.00 to child care tuition scholarships only; part-time three days per week. The motion was voted on but quorum was lost due to recusal which resulted in the need for the current meeting.

For today's meeting, the Council can ratify the original motion or a Member of the Council can propose a new motion.

Regional Coordinator Brenda Tomlin provided additional information regarding dosage and reimbursement rates to the Council for their consideration.

1

For the record, Vice Chair Sally Downing and Member Mindy Zapata declared conflict and did not participate further in the discussion of this agenda item, or in the vote. Member James Emch moved to allocate seven hundred forty thousand dollars ($740,000.00) toward child care tuition scholarships for fiscal year 2011 that will provide pre-school age children three to five a continuity of care as provided in fiscal year 2010, second by member Connie Robinson; roll call vote taken by Coordinator Tomlin with the following results:

In Favor: Chair Bill Adams, Member Willette Watts, Member James Emch, Member Connie Robinson, Member Elaine Ellis.

Not in Favor: Member Jenna Goad

Recusal: Vice Chair Sally Downing is currently employed by the Arizona Department of Education who holds the FTF contract for expanding preschool classrooms across several of the regional council areas. Member Mindy Zapata is responsible to administer several preschool/Head Start sites in the region that have already applied/may apply to be a part of the Quality First! program.

Motion carried with majority vote. The consensus of the Council was to continue with the existing Quality First Centers identified by the Council and continue funding the existing preschool aged recipients. The current allocation would support approximately 75 full time scholarships.

3. RATIFICATION OF THE MARCH 9, FUNDING MECHANISM DECISION FOR 2011 STRATEGIES EARLY LITERACY (Discussion and Possible Action: At the regular meeting on March 9, 2010 Council Members discussed and decided how to distribute the funding allocated for Early Literacy strategies in 2011. A discussion to increase the funding to Raising A Reader by 35% based on information received regarding a current waiting list, as well as proposing an increase in the allocation to the Phoenix Library by 100% as there is significant interest in this program. A vote took place but the Council did not have a quorum due to recusal. The original motion may be ratified or the Council can propose a new motion for vote.

For the record, Member Mindy Zapata and Member Elaine Ellis declared conflict and no longer participated in the discussion of the agenda item, or in the vote. Member Jenna Goad moved to reaffirm the original motion from March 9, 2010 which was to do the justification and increase the funding to Raising A Reader by 35% based on their waiting list; and increase the library allocation by 100% for fiscal year 2011; roll call vote taken by Coordinator Tomlin with the following results:
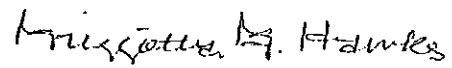
In Favor: Chair Bill Adams, Member Willette Watts, Member James Emch, Vice Chair Sally Downing, Member Jenna Goad, Member Connie Robinson

Recusal: Member Elaine Ellis provides clinical services for the Agency that currently holds two of the existing contracts to provide Early Literacy services in the region. Member Mindy Zapata is also employed by the Agency that currently holds two of the existing contracts to provide Early Literacy services in the region.

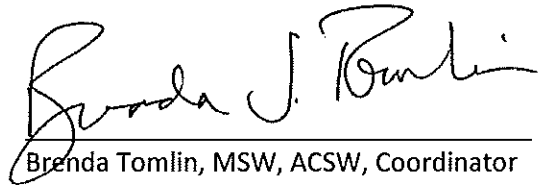**4. NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:** Special telephonic meeting immediately following this meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Sally Downing moved to adjourn at 4:25 pm, second by Member Connie Robinson, all in favor, no discussion; meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.
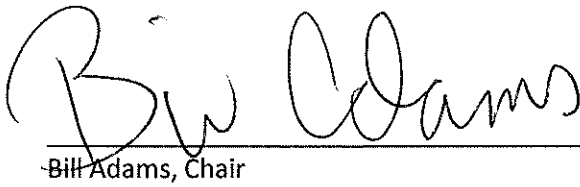
2

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

APPROVED

Briggetta H. Hawks

Brenda J. Tomlin

Briggetta Hawks, Administrative Assistant

Brenda Tomlin, MSW, ACSW, Coordinator

COUNCIL APPROVAL

Bill Adams

Bill Adams, Chair